United Nations S/2016/739

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 August 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 24 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing under the instructions of my Government to bring the following to your kind attention.

As the tragic consequences of the Syrian conflict in its sixth year continue unabated, not just the Syrian people but the entire region suffer tremendously. The terrorist organizations that have found fertile ground are conducting activities which constitute a clear threat to regional stability and the national security of Turkey.

In a letter to the Security Council dated 24 July 2015, we had informed the members of the Council of our intention to combat DEASH terrorists and the actions we initiated thereon.

Since that date, Syria-based terrorism and its spillover effects have also grown exponentially. DEASH terrorists launched rocket attacks and artillery fire in the border area that resulted in the deaths of 21 people in Turkey. DEASH has also carried out terrorist attacks in our cities that have claimed the lives of hundreds. Most recently, 54 of our citizens, many of whom were women and children, fell victim to yet another bombed attack in Gaziantep on 20 August.

In facing this terrorist threat, our response has always been proportionate, measured and responsible in line with the right of self-defence as outlined in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Turkey initiated a military operation in the early hours of 24 August 2016 against DEASH, which has been directly and deliberately targeting Turkey, as part of its national efforts and in collaboration with international actions. This military action, supported by the International Coalition elements, is being undertaken in areas under DEASH control in northern Syria.

This measure was essential in terms of ensuring Turkey's border security and our national security based on the notion of self-defence as outlined in Article 51, but also within the context of the responsibility attributed to member countries in the fight against terrorism through Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014).

I would like to underline that Turkey, unequivocally committed to the territorial integrity and political unity of Syria, undertakes this measure with a view to contributing to and furthering these basic principles.

Please recycle

Turkey remains staunchly committed to finding a political solution to the conflict in Syria through a genuine political transition, as outlined in the Geneva communiqué and Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), and will continue its dauntless efforts to make this a reality as soon as possible.

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Y. Halit **Çevik**
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2016/740

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 25 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to our many letters concerning the refusal of Israel to implement the internationally recognized resolutions calling for its withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan to the 4 June 1967 line and its continued violation of international law and the 1974 Disengagement of Forces Agreement by, inter alia, providing assistance and support for armed terrorist groups in the area of separation in the Golan, I should like to draw your attention to the following important information:

The Israeli occupying forces are attempting to extend their authority over the Wadi Yarmuk and Wadi al-Ruqqad areas of the Dar'a countryside because they are rich in natural resources. They are being abetted in this attempt by armed terrorist groups affiliated with Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant in the villages of Shajarah, Kuwayyah, Abidin, Bayt Arah, Qusayr, Nafi'ah, Jamlah, Shabraq, Ayn Dhakar, Saysun, Abu Raqqah, Ghulah, Quraysh, Abu Hajar, Abu Faraj, Arab al-Sawdah, Shaykh Husayn, Sirkiyah and Ma'rabah, as well as by terrorist groups affiliated with the so-called Southern Front in the villages Jalifah, Saham al-Jawlan, Hayt, Tasil, Aji, Kharab al-Shahm and Tall Shihab in the Dar'a countryside. In order to achieve the above-mentioned goal, the terrorist groups are emptying those villages of their population by depriving the inhabitants of daily necessities, confiscating the homes of persons who have been absent from them for more than two days and preventing the owners from returning, and buying residents' homes and land.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council, to take urgent action to put an immediate end to Israeli support for armed terrorist groups; put pressure on Israel to implement the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 497 (1981); and compel Israel to withdraw from the entire occupied Syrian Golan to the 4 June 1967 line.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

16-14958 (E) 310816 310816

Please recycle

United Nations S/2016/741

Security Council

Distr.: General
30 August 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 25 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters drawing your attention to attacks by the so-called Western coalition against the infrastructure of the Syrian Arab Republic, I transmit herewith a statistical table containing:

1. Initial estimates of the costs of losses resulting from attacks launched by the so-called Western coalition against oil and gas facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic during the period from 1 April to 31 July 2016.

2. Initial estimates of the overall costs of losses resulting from attacks launched by the so-called Western coalition against oil and gas facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic from the onset of those attacks to 31 July 2016.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

16-15025 (E) 020916 020916

Please recycle

Annex to the identical letters dated 25 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Cumulative table of initial estimates of damages resulting from the bombings carried out by the air force of the so-called Western coalition against oil and gas installations from 23 September 2014 to 31 July 2016

I. Value of damages to active and other associated companies assessed recently for the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 July 2016

Company name	*Date*	*Location*	*Losses and damage sustained*	*Amount of losses (United States dollars)*			*Amount of losses (millions of Syrian pounds)*
				Direct losses	*Indirect losses (from production delays)*	*Total (United States dollars)*	
Syria Petroleum Company	9 February 2016	Wahab, Safih and Fahdah plants	The Wahab, Safih and Fahdah plants sustained comprehensive damage.	8 800 000	–	8 800 000	..
Furat Petroleum Company	2016	Taym field	Bombings carried out in 2015 damaged the main plant, storage tanks Nos. 807, 282, 226 and 831, electricity poles, the control and communications rooms and other materials.	2 700 000	–	2 700 000	..
	25 June 2016	Umar field	The oil collection terminal in the Umar field was bombarded. According to initial reports from the site, oil storage tanks 501, 402, 401 and 400 exploded. The electrical turbines were also brought to a halt, and returned into service the next day.	11 661 000	–	11 661 000	..
Total losses (United States dollars and Syrian pounds)				**23 161 000**	**–**	**23 161 000**	..

II. Cumulative value of damages assessed from the onset of the bombings on 23 September 2014 to 31 July 2016

Initial estimates of losses sustained at the oil and gas installations of all companies in the Syrian Arab Republic as result of the bombings carried out by the Western coalition, estimated since the onset of the bombings up until 31 July 2016	*Amount of losses (United States dollars)*			
	Direct losses	*Indirect losses (from production delays or burning of oil or gas)*	*Total (United States dollars)*	*Amount of losses (millions of Syrian pounds)*
In 2014 (United States dollars and Syrian pounds)	521 330 048	22 280 985	543 611 033	..
In 2015 (United States dollars and Syrian pounds)	1 015 001 533	112 256 257	1 127 257 790	..
In 2016 (United States dollars and Syrian pounds)	123 674 200	13 035	123 687 235	..
Combined total losses (United States dollars and Syrian pounds)	1 660 005 781	134 550 277	1 794 556 058	..
Grand total (United States dollars and Syrian pounds)		**1 794 556 058**		

United Nations S/2016/742

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 August 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 24 August 2016 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I am forwarding to you a letter, dated 19 August 2016, from the Chair of the Working Group of the Security Council on Children and Armed Conflict established by Council resolution 1612 (2005), based on the Working Group's conclusions adopted on 17 May 2016 (S/AC.51/2016/2) (see annex).

(*Signed*) Ramlan Bin **Ibrahim**
President of the Security Council

16-14818 (E) 290816

Please recycle

Annex

Letter dated 19 August 2016 from the Chair of the Working Group of the Security Council on Children and Armed Conflict addressed to the Secretary-General

At its 57th meeting, on 2 March 2016, the Working Group of the Security Council on Children and Armed Conflict examined the second report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Iraq (S/2015/852), covering the period from January 2011 to June 2015. At its 58th meeting, on 17 May 2016, the Working Group adopted its conclusions on children and armed conflict in Iraq (S/AC.51/2016/2).

In follow up to the recommendations of the Working Group and subject to and consistent with applicable international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009), 1998 (2011), 2068 (2012), 2143 (2014) and 2255 (2015), I am entrusted, in my capacity as Chair of the Working Group, to:

(a) Welcome the efforts of your Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the United Nations Children's Fund to highlight the plight of children affected by armed conflict in Iraq and advance efforts to strengthen their protection;

(b) Request you to ensure that the country task force on monitoring and reporting in Iraq and other relevant United Nations agencies continue their engagement and efforts to support the Government of Iraq to address violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict;

(c) Recognizing the importance of the monitoring and reporting of violations and abuses against children, request you to ensure the continued effectiveness of the monitoring and reporting mechanism on violations and abuses against children in armed conflict in Iraq, especially in the areas most affected by conflict;

(d) Request you to continue to give priority to the child protection activities and capacity of UNAMI and ensure that information and analysis on children and armed conflict in Iraq are specifically included in your future reports, in line with relevant Security Council resolutions.

(*Signed*) Ramlan Bin **Ibrahim**
Chair
Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

United Nations S/2016/743

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 25 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to draw your attention to the following:

Further to my numerous letters concerning the support the Jordanian regime provides to armed terrorist groups in Syria, including facilitation of the entry via Syrian border crossings of trucks loaded with weapons destined for armed terrorist groups in Syria, in flagrant violation of Security Council resolutions concerning counter-terrorism, including resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015), I should like to draw to your attention the following:

The Jordanian regime has facilitated the entry of trucks loaded with weapons destined for armed terrorist groups in Syria via several border crossings as follows:

- On 11 July 2016 at 0600 hours, armed terrorist groups brought three tractor-trailer trucks loaded with assorted weapons and ammunition from Jordan into Syria via the Tall Shihab border crossing. They were unloaded at a vineyard in Kharab al-Shahm Farms in the western countryside of Dar'a governorate.
- On 24 July at 2130 hours, armed terrorist groups brought four vehicles from Jordan into Syria via the Abu Sharshuh border crossing and headed towards the Rusay'i well in the Suwayda' desert.
- On 27 July at 2300 hours, armed terrorist groups brought seven trucks loaded with tank shells, anti-armour missiles, spare parts for heavy machine guns and assorted ammunition from Jordan into Syria via the Tall Shihab crossing and headed towards the villages of Burayqah and Kudnah in the Qunaytirah countryside.
- On 3 August at 2145 hours, armed terrorist groups brought eight vehicles from Jordan into Syria via the Abu Sharshuh border crossing into the Suwayhat Abu Sharshuh area and headed towards the Rusay'i well in the Suwayda' desert.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again calls on the Security Council to assume its responsibility and take a firm approach when responding to this information and all of the information that we have sent in the past regarding the Jordanian regime's ongoing support for the armed terrorist groups that are active

across Syrian territory. Such support poses a threat to security and stability in the region and the world.

I should be grateful if this letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2016/744

Security Council

Distr.: General
30 August 2016

Original: English

Angola, Egypt, France, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Senegal, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on Lebanon, in particular resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 1559 (2004), 1680 (2006), 1701 (2006), 1773 (2007), 1832 (2008), 1884 (2009), 1937 (2010) and 2004 (2011), 2064 (2012), 2115 (2013), 2172 (2014) and 2236 (2015) as well as the statements of its President on the situation in Lebanon, in particular the statement of its President dated 22 July 2016,

Responding to the request of the Government of Lebanon to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for a period of one year without amendment presented in a letter from the Lebanese Foreign Minister to the Secretary-General of 25 July 2016 and welcoming the letter from the Secretary-General to its President of 3 August 2016 (S/2016/681) recommending this extension,

Reiterating its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon,

Reaffirming its commitment to the full implementation of all provisions of resolution 1701 (2006), and aware of its responsibilities to help secure a permanent ceasefire and a long-term solution as envisioned in the resolution,

Expressing concern at the limited progress made towards the establishment of a permanent ceasefire and other key provisions of resolution 1701 (2006) ten years after its adoption,

Calling upon all concerned parties to strengthen their efforts, including by exploring concrete solutions with the Special Coordinator of the Secretary-General and the UNIFIL Force Commander, to fully implement all provisions of resolution 1701 (2006) without delay,

Expressing deep concern at all violations in connection with resolution 1701 (2006) in particular the incidents which occurred on 20 December 2015 and 4 January 2016,

Underlining the risk that violations of the cessation of hostilities could lead to a new conflict that none of the parties or the region can afford,

16-15014 (E) 300816

Please recycle

Urging all parties to make every effort to ensure that the cessation of hostilities is sustained, exercise maximum calm and restraint and refrain from any action or rhetoric that could jeopardize the cessation of hostilities or destabilize the region,

Emphasizing to all parties the importance of full compliance with the prohibition on sales and supply of arms and related materiel established by resolution 1701 (2006),

Recalling the utmost importance that all parties concerned respect the Blue Line in its entirety, *welcoming* the continued progress in the marking of the Blue Line, and *encouraging* the parties to accelerate their efforts in coordination with UNIFIL, including through the tripartite mechanism, to continue working in the ongoing process to delineate and visibly mark the Blue Line in its entirety, as well as to move forward on the marking of its points of contention, as recommended by the Strategic Review,

Condemning in the strongest terms all attempts to threaten the security and stability of Lebanon,

Reaffirming its determination to ensure that no such acts of intimidation prevent UNIFIL from implementing its mandate in accordance with Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), and *recalling* the necessity for all parties to ensure that UNIFIL personnel are secure and their freedom of movement is fully respected and unimpeded,

Recalling the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,

Commending the active role and dedication of the personnel of UNIFIL and expressing its strong appreciation to Member States that contribute to UNIFIL and *underlining* the necessity that UNIFIL has at its disposal all necessary means and equipment to carry out its mandate,

Recalling the request from the Government of Lebanon to deploy an international force to assist it to exercise its authority throughout the territory, and *reaffirming* UNIFIL's authority to take all necessary action in areas of operations of its forces and as it deems within its capabilities, to ensure that its area of operations is not utilized for hostile activities of any kind and to resist attempts by forceful means to prevent it from discharging its mandate,

Welcoming the crucial role played by the Lebanese Armed Forces and security forces in extending and sustaining the authority of the Government of Lebanon, in particular in southern Lebanon, and responding to other security challenges, including the threat of terrorism, and the strong international commitment to support the Lebanese Armed Forces, which has helped strengthen the capability of the Lebanese Armed Forces to provide security for Lebanon,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to keep all peacekeeping operations, including UNIFIL, under close review, and *stressing the need* for the Council to pursue a rigorous, strategic approach to peacekeeping deployments,

Bearing in mind the strategic priorities and recommendations identified by the Secretary-General in his letter of 12 March 2012 (S/2012/151) as a result of the Strategic Review of UNIFIL, and *expressing* the need for a follow-up and update,

Calling upon Member States to assist the Lebanese Armed Forces as needed to enable it to perform its duties in line with resolution 1701 (2006),

Determining that the situation in Lebanon continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

1. *Decides* to extend the present mandate of UNIFIL until 31 August 2017;

2. *Commends* the positive role of UNIFIL, whose deployment together with the Lebanese Armed Forces has helped to establish a new strategic environment in southern Lebanon, *welcomes* the expansion of coordinated activities between UNIFIL and the Lebanese Armed Forces, and *calls for* further enhancement of this cooperation;

3. *Welcomes* in this regard the continued engagement of UNIFIL and the Lebanese Armed Forces in the Strategic Dialogue, which aims at carrying out analysis of ground forces and maritime assets and setting a series of benchmarks reflecting the correlation between the capacities and responsibilities of UNIFIL vis-à-vis those of the Lebanese Armed Forces, with a view to identifying Lebanese Armed Forces requirements for implementing tasks mandated in resolution 1701 (2006);

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with global peacekeeping best practice, to conduct by February 2017 a strategic review of UNIFIL, examining the structure of its uniformed and civilian components and related resources, further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the results of this review, in an effort to ensure that the Mission is configured most appropriately to fulfil its mandated tasks, and *affirms* in this regard its strong continuing commitment to the existing UNIFIL mandate;

5. *Urges* further international support for the Lebanese Armed Forces, in response to the capabilities development plan of the Lebanese Armed Forces, as well as in the framework of the International Support Group for Lebanon, through additional and expedited assistance in areas where the Lebanese Armed Forces are most critically in need of support, including counter-terrorism and border protection;

6. *Strongly calls upon* all parties to respect the cessation of hostilities, to prevent any violation of the Blue Line and to respect it in its entirety and to cooperate fully with the United Nations and UNIFIL;

7. *Welcomes* the constructive role played by the Tripartite Mechanism in facilitating coordination and in de-escalating tensions, which has helped to further stabilize the situation along the Blue Line and build trust between the parties, and *expresses* in this regard strong support for the efforts of UNIFIL to engage with both parties to facilitate liaison, coordination, and practical arrangements on the ground and to continue to ensure that the Tripartite Mechanism enables the parties to discuss a wider range of issues;

8. *Urges* all parties to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of UNIFIL and other United Nations personnel and to ensure that the freedom of movement of UNIFIL is fully respected and unimpeded, in conformity with its mandate and its rules of engagement including by avoiding any course of action which endangers United Nations personnel, and in this regard, calls for further cooperation between UNIFIL and the Lebanese Armed Forces in particular

regarding coordinated and adjacent patrols, *welcomes* the commitment of the Lebanese authorities to protect UNIFIL movements and *reiterates its call* for the rapid finalization of the investigation launched by Lebanon regarding the 27 May, 26 July and 9 December 2011 attacks in order to bring to justice the perpetrators of these attacks;

9. *Urges* all parties to cooperate fully with the Security Council and the Secretary-General to make tangible progress towards a permanent ceasefire and a long-term solution as envisioned in resolution 1701 (2006) and on all outstanding issues in the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1701 (2006), 1680 (2006) and 1559 (2004), and other relevant Security Council resolutions;

10. *Urges* the Government of Israel to expedite the withdrawal of its army from northern Ghajar without further delay in coordination with UNIFIL, which has actively engaged Israel and Lebanon to facilitate such a withdrawal;

11. *Reaffirms* its call on all States to fully support and respect the establishment between the Blue Line and the Litani River of an area free of any armed personnel, assets and weapons other than those of the Government of Lebanon and UNIFIL;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts being undertaken by UNIFIL to implement the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure full compliance of its personnel with the United Nations code of conduct, requests the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary action in this regard and to keep the Security Council informed, and urges troop-contributing countries to take preventive and disciplinary action to ensure that such acts are properly investigated and punished in cases involving their personnel;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the Council on the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006), every four months, or at any time as he deems appropriate;

14. *Stresses* the importance of, and the need to achieve, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions including its resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008;

15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations S/2016/745

Security Council

Distr.: General
30 August 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 26 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to transmit to you the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic regarding the events of 24 August 2016. In the morning of that day, Turkish tanks and armoured vehicles, under air cover provided by aircraft of the international coalition led by Washington, crossed the Syrian border and headed for the city of Jarabulus.

> "The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that any party combating terrorism in Syrian territory must do so in complete coordination with the Syrian Government and the Syrian Arab Army, which has been engaged in this struggle for more than five years. The Syrian Arab Republic condemns this blatant violation of its sovereignty by Turkey and stresses that countering terrorism does not mean expelling Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and replacing it with other terrorist organizations that are directly supported by Turkey.
>
> What is occurring in Jarabulus is not counter-terrorism, as Turkey claims, but rather the substitution of one form of terrorism for another. Syria demands that this aggression be brought to an end and calls on the United Nations to implement its resolutions that concern, in particular, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. It also demands that Turkey and the American coalition abide by international resolutions, particularly those that relate to the closing of borders and addressing the roots of terrorism."

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

16-15026 (E) 010916 020916

Please recycle

United Nations A/70/1026–S/2016/746

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Agenda item 34
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 26 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement released by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 26 August 2016 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the seventieth session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

16-14956 (E) 310816

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 26 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement made on 26 August 2016 by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

Pyongyang, August 26 (KCNA) — A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK released the following statement on Friday:

The news of a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) test-fire successfully conducted at a higher level by scientists and technicians in the field of national defence of the DPRK came to rock the world. Against this backdrop, undesirable forces are moving to create an atmosphere of putting pressure on the DPRK over the test-fire.

The U.S. and some other countries following it are accusing the DPRK of its SLBM test-fire and an "urgent consultation" concerning it was held at UNSC on Thursday. The U.S. and its followers, terming the DPRK's test-fire of the SLBM that fully demonstrated the nuclear attack capability of Juche Korea "violation of resolutions," brought it up to the UNSC for discussion. This is just a hideous provocation reminiscent of the guilty party filing a suit first.

The U.S. staged Key Resolve and Foal Eagle 16 joint military drills only a few months ago, openly talking about "occupying Pyongyang," after bringing the hugest-ever nuclear strategic assets and troops to south Korea.

It is now desperately kicking off joint military drills again to mount a pre-emptive nuclear attack on the DPRK despite the unanimous denunciation and opposition of all Koreans and the world public. A touch-and-go situation where a nuclear war may break out any moment is now prevailing on the Korean peninsula due to the war rehearsal.

The U.S. outrageous nuclear intimidation only resulted in the steady increase of the DPRK's nuclear attack capability. The SLBM test-fire which was successfully conducted without any adverse impact on the security of neighboring countries was a vivid manifestation and a striking demonstration of the tremendous power and inexhaustible strength of Juche Korea firmly consolidated in the face of the tempest of history and all challenges by the enemy.

The results of the test-fire proved in actuality that the DPRK joined the front rank of the military powers fully equipped with nuclear attack capability and the U.S. mainland and the operational theatre in the Pacific have come within the striking range of the DPRK, no matter how hard the U.S. tries to deny it.

The service personnel and people of the DPRK would deal merciless blows at the U.S. with nuclear hammers of justice so that nails of injustice may not come out again, once an opportunity is given, now that the DPRK has in place all substantial means capable of standing up against the U.S. nuclear hegemony.

The U.S. rash acts of taking issue with the DPRK's SLBM test-fire will only precipitate its self-destruction. The best way of escaping the deadly strike of the

infuriated DPRK is to refrain from hurting its dignity and security with prudence and self-control.

If the U.S. attempts to threaten the dignity and vital rights of the DPRK even a bit despite its solemn warning, the DPRK will continue to take one after another epochal action steps it can show as a full-fledged military power.

United Nations A/70/1028–S/2016/747

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Agenda item 34
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 28 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement of a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 28 August 2016 with regard to a press statement of the Security Council dated 26 August 2016 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the seventieth session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **JA** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

16-14957 (E) 010916

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 28 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Pyongyang, August 28 (KCNA) — The U.S. and its followers committed a serious hostile act of releasing a UN Security Council's press statement finding fault with the DPRK's measures for bolstering nuclear deterrence for self-defence such as the strategic submarine-launched ballistic missile test-fire.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK in a statement on Sunday, 28 August 2016 termed the UNSC's press statement a product of brigandish acts of the U.S. and other hostile forces to take issue with and deter the DPRK from exercising its legitimate right to self-defence, and categorically rejected it.

The recent farce of adopting the press statement which the U.S. staged by abusing the UNSC is a wanton violation of the sovereignty and dignity of the DPRK and a reckless provocation, harassing peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, the statement noted, and went on:

While deliberately disregarding the written complaint filed by the DPRK against the aggressive U.S.-south Korea joint military exercises, the UNSC found fault with the DPRK's bolstering of deterrent for self-defence, being played into the hands of the U.S. This is an illegal action taken by the world body to side with the U.S. in the acute stand-off between the DPRK and the U.S. without an iota of impartiality.

The U.S. and its followers are terming the DPRK's measures for self-defence a violation of "resolutions" of the UNSC and the like but even the UN Secretariat fails to give a clear answer to the question as to whether the "resolutions" are legitimate documents complying with the UN Charter.

The DPRK has substantial means capable of reducing aggression troops in the U.S. mainland and the operational theatre in the Pacific to ashes in a moment once an opportunity is given to cope with the U.S. unprecedented hostile policy and nuclear threat to the DPRK.

The DPRK has already warned the U.S. that its rash act of finding fault with the SLBM test-fire would only precipitate its self-destruction and that the best way of escaping the deadly strikes to be made by the enraged people of the DPRK is to refrain from hurting its dignity and security with prudence and self-control.

Now that the U.S. posed threats to the dignity and the right to existence of the DPRK defying its serious warning, it will continue to take a series of eventful action steps as a full-fledged military power.

The U.S. and its vassal forces will be held wholly responsible for all the ensuing consequences.

United Nations S/2016/748

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 August 2016

Original: English

Letter dated 29 August 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the thirty-fifth monthly report of the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 2118 (2013) (see annex). The present report covers the period from 23 July 2016 to 22 August 2016.

On the matter of the destruction of chemical weapons production facilities declared by the Syrian Arab Republic, the situation remains unchanged. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has informed OPCW that the prevailing security situation continues to prevent safe access to destroy the remaining hangar and to confirm the condition of the two stationary above-ground facilities.

With respect to the initial declaration by the Syrian Arab Republic and subsequent submissions, I note that the Director-General has addressed a letter to the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, attaching a list of questions and calling again for the Syrian Arab Republic to provide scientifically and technically plausible explanations (see enclosure). I reiterate my call for continuing cooperation between the Syrian Arab Republic and OPCW on resolving these issues.

It is with grave concern that I recall recent allegations of the use of chemical weapons in the Aleppo Governorate of the Syrian Arab Republic, and take note that the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) in the Syrian Arab Republic has continued to study all available information. I note further that the FFM is studying a request by the Syrian Arab Republic to dispatch a team to investigate an alleged incident.

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2235 (2015), the OPCW-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism submitted its third report to the Security Council on 24 August 2016. The report provides an update on the activities of the Mechanism through 19 August 2016. It also outlines the assessment and conclusions drawn by the Leadership Panel to date, based on the results of the investigation into the nine selected cases of the use of chemicals as weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic. I reaffirm my condemnation of the use of such weapons by any party to the conflict. I look forward to the deliberations by the Council on this report and urge the Council to take decisive action in this regard. Accountability must be ensured for those who have used chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Please recycle

Since my last letter, the Leadership Panel and the investigators spent one week in Damascus, from 1 to 5 August 2016, for meetings with senior Syrian officials, interviews and technical briefings. The Mechanism continued to receive information relevant to its investigation from a number of Member States, as well as technical assessments from forensic institutes. In addition, the Mechanism continued its engagement with non-governmental organizations and individuals with information about the cases under investigation.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

Annex

Letter dated 24 August 2016 from the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish]

I have the honour to transmit to you my report entitled 'Progress in the Elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme' prepared in accordance with the relevant provisions of the OPCW Executive Council Decision EC-M-33/DEC.1, and the United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), both dated 27 September 2013, for transmission to the Security Council. My report covers the period from 23 July 2016 to 22 August 2016 and also covers the reporting requirements of the Executive Council decision EC-M-34/DEC.1, dated 15 November 2013.

(*Signed*) Ahmet **Üzümcü**

Enclosure

[Original: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish]

Note by the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Progress in the Elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme

1. In accordance with subparagraph 2(f) of the decision by the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") at its Thirty-Third Meeting (EC-M-33/DEC.1, dated 27 September 2013), the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") is to report to the Council on a monthly basis regarding the implementation of that decision. In accordance with paragraph 12 of United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), the report by the Secretariat is also to be submitted to the Security Council through the Secretary-General.

2. The Council, at its Thirty-Fourth Meeting, adopted a decision entitled "Detailed Requirements for the Destruction of Syrian Chemical Weapons and Syrian Chemical Weapons Production Facilities" (EC-M-34/DEC.1, dated 15 November 2013). In paragraph 22 of that decision, the Council decided that the Secretariat should report on its implementation "in conjunction with its reporting required by subparagraph 2(f) of Council decision EC-M-33/DEC.1".

3. The Council, at its Forty-Eighth Meeting, adopted a decision entitled "Reports of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria" (EC-M-48/DEC.1, dated 4 February 2015) noting the Director-General's intent to include reports of the OPCW Fact Finding Mission (FFM) in Syria, along with information on the Council's discussion thereof, as part of the monthly reporting pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013). Similarly, the Council, at its Eighty-First Session, adopted a decision entitled "Report by the Director-General Regarding the Declaration and Related Submissions by the Syrian Arab Republic" (EC-81/DEC.4, dated 23 March 2016), noting the Director-General's intent to provide information on the implementation of that decision.

4. This, the thirty-fifth monthly report, is therefore submitted in accordance with the aforementioned Council decisions, and includes information relevant to the period from 23 July to 22 August 2016.

Progress achieved by the Syrian Arab Republic in meeting the requirements of Executive Council decisions EC-M-33/DEC.1 and EC-M-34/DEC.1

5. Progress by the Syrian Arab Republic is as follows:

(a) The Secretariat has verified the destruction of 24 of the 27 chemical weapons production facilities (CWPFs) declared by the Syrian Arab Republic. However, the poor security situation continues both to prevent safe access to destroy the remaining aircraft hangar, which stands ready to accept the explosive charges, and to confirm the condition of the two stationary above-ground facilities.

(b) On 15 August 2016, the Syrian Arab Republic submitted to the Council its thirty-third monthly report (EC-83/P/NAT.2, dated 15 August 2016) regarding activities on its territory related to the destruction of its CWPFs, as required by paragraph 19 of EC-M-34/DEC.1.

(c) The Syrian authorities have continued to extend the necessary cooperation in accordance with the implementation of subparagraph 1(e) of EC-M-33/DEC.1 and paragraph 7 of United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013).

Progress in the elimination of Syrian chemical weapons by States Parties hosting destruction activities

6. As reported previously, all the chemicals declared by the Syrian Arab Republic that were removed from its territory in 2014 have now been destroyed.

Activities carried out by the Secretariat with respect to Executive Council decision EC-81/DEC.4

7. As reported previously, the Director-General had provided the Council, at its Eighty-Second Session in July 2016, with a comprehensive picture of the Secretariat's activities so far, including the efforts to implement decision EC-81/DEC.4 to assist the Syrian Arab Republic in arriving at a declaration that is accurate and complete. The Director-General also reported on the technical details of all outstanding issues still requiring clarification, and reiterated the conclusion that the Syrian declaration cannot yet be fully verified as accurate and complete in accordance with the Chemical Weapons Convention and Council decision EC-M-33/DEC.1.

8. Also, as reported previously, the Council at its Eighty-Second Session did not reach a consensus to adopt a draft decision before it entitled "Report by the Director-General on the Outcome of Consultations with the Syrian Arab Republic Regarding its Chemical Weapons Declaration" (EC-82/DEC/CRP.5, dated 7 July 2016).

9. In an effort to make progress in clarifying the outstanding issues with regard to the Syrian Arab Republic's declaration, the Director-General addressed a letter dated 27 July 2016 to H.E. Dr Faisal Mekdad, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic. In the letter, the Director-General reiterated his call for the Syrian Arab Republic to provide scientifically and technically plausible explanations to an attached list of questions related to various facets of its chemical weapons programme.

Other activities carried out by the Secretariat with respect to the Syrian Arab Republic

10. As requested by the Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session (paragraph 7.12 of EC-75/2, dated 7 March 2014), the Secretariat, on behalf of the Director-General, has continued to brief States Parties in The Hague on its activities.

11. As at the cut-off date of this report, one OPCW staff member was deployed as part of the OPCW Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Supplementary resources

12. As previously reported, a Trust Fund for Syria Missions was established in November 2015 to support the FFM and other remaining activities, such as those of the DAT. As at the cut-off date of this report, contribution agreements totalling EUR 7.8 million had been concluded with Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Monaco, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United States of America, and the European Union. Pledges from other donors have been made and are currently being processed.

Activities carried out with respect to the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria

13. The FFM continued to study all available information relating to a number of recent allegations of use of chemical weapons in the Aleppo Governorate of the Syrian Arab Republic. Additionally, the Secretariat received a note verbale from the Syrian Arab Republic on 16 August 2016 requesting the Director-General to dispatch an FFM team to undertake investigation of an alleged incident. The request is currently being examined. The FFM's work will continue to be guided by Council decisions EC-M-48/DEC.1 and EC-M-50/DEC.1 (dated 23 November 2015), as well as by United Nations Security Council resolution 2209 (2015).

14. The OPCW also continued to extend its full cooperation and support to the OPCW-UN Joint Investigative Mechanism.

Conclusion

15. The main focus of the future activities of the OPCW Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic will continue to be on the implementation of Council decision EC-81/DEC.4, as well as on the destruction and verification of the remaining aircraft hangar, confirmation of the status of the two stationary above-ground facilities, and annual inspections of the underground structures already verified as destroyed.

United Nations S/2016/749

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 August 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 29 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to apprise you of the heinous, bloody massacre of innocent civilians committed by the Turkish Army in the north of the Syrian Arab Republic on Sunday, 28 August 2016.

The air force and artillery of the Turkish Army, in coordination with its armed terrorist organization proxies, indiscriminately bombed the villages of Jubb al-Kusa and Amarinah, south of the city of Jarabulus in Aleppo governorate. The resulting massacre claimed the lives of 35 Syrian civilians, 20 of them in Jubb al-Kusa and the other 15 in Amarinah, and injured dozens more. Public and private property, infrastructure and services in the villages were extensively damaged.

The violations, attacks and massacres committed by the Turkish regime during its incursion into Syrian territory fall foul of all moral and legal standards. They amount to criminal aggression and crimes against humanity in the fullest sense. Some of those crimes were perpetrated directly by the Erdoğan regime, acting through the Turkish Army and its numerous branches. We have addressed those crimes in detail in previous letters. Others were carried out indirectly by terrorist proxies and collaborators acting on the regime's orders. Those actors include the so-called Free Army, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Nusrah Front (which recently took on a new guise, calling itself the Front for the Conquest of the Levant), Ahrar al-Sham, the Nur al-Din Zanki movement, Liwa' al-Tawhid, the Badr Martyrs Brigade, the Emigrants Brigade, the Islamic Front and the Western Turkestan organization. In yet other cases, the Erdoğan regime facilitated those crimes by providing the terrorist organizations with financial and logistical support, including various types of sophisticated weapons and ammunition and mercenaries from more than 100 countries. On 28 August 2016, the Turkish media reported that, in the previous few days alone, the Turkish regime had allowed over 3,000 terrorists across the Syrian-Turkish border to join the terrorists and organizations that are killing our people in Aleppo.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic condemns in the strongest terms the recurring crimes, violations, attacks and massacres to which the Ankara regime has, for over five years, subjected the Syrian people and the integrity, unity and sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic. Syria calls on the members of the Security Council to condemn these cowardly crimes, exercise all due pressure and take

Please recycle

effective measures to ensure that the Erdoğan regime comes to its senses and desists from sponsoring terrorism as a means of interfering in Syria's internal affairs. The Turkish regime made a show of entering Jarabulus but did not fire a single bullet at ISIL. Rather, ISIL joined the ranks of the Turkish Army and its terrorist allies as they entered the town, proving that the regime is working with ISIL and other terrorist groups. The Turkish regime states that ISIL has left Jarabulus. In actual fact, terrorist groups allied with the Turkish regime are being introduced into the city, substituting one form of terrorism for another. The United Nations and the international community should not be fooled.

By continuing to provide various forms of support to the Turkish regime, France, the United States of America, Britain, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar are explicitly supporting terrorism, not only in Syria but in all countries of the world. Those countries, along with the Turkish regime, are complicit in the killing of innocent people in Aleppo, Damascus, Jarabulus, Paris, Lyon, Brussels and Berlin. The fact of the matter is that terrorism is terrorism, and it has no religion, homeland or nationality.

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that any party combating terrorism in Syrian territory must do so in complete coordination with the Syrian Government and the Syrian Arab Army, which has been bravely and tenaciously engaged in this struggle for more than five years. The Syrian Government will not falter in its duty to combat terrorism and to work towards a political solution to the crisis in Syria through dialogue among Syrians, without foreign interference or preconditions, putting a decisive end to terrorism in Syria.

The Syrian Government calls on the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to maintain international peace and security and to demand that Turkey withdraw immediately from Syrian territory, respect Syria's sovereignty and the unity of its territory and people, discontinue its support for terrorist groups operating under various names, completely close its borders with Syria in accordance with the authoritative international resolutions and the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council resolutions, and commit to implementing those resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015).

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2016/750

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 August 2016
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 30 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I write further to our numerous letters concerning Israel's rejection of the authoritative international resolutions that require it to withdraw from all of the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967. Israel has continued to violate international law and the 1974 Disengagement of Forces Agreement. It has persisted with its aggressive settlement activities that are aimed at Judaizing the occupied Syrian Golan and altering its demographic composition. In so doing, it has flouted the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly. The most recent of these, General Assembly resolution 70/91, stresses the illegality of Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan, and once again calls upon Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements.

In yet another Israeli violation of the authoritative international resolutions and international law, the Israeli occupation government has prioritized the Golan settlements in the budget for construction. It took that measure following the provocative meeting that was held in the Golan in April 2016. From 2010 to 2015, the number of settlers in the Golan grew to 21,850, whereas 24, 535 Syrian citizens live in five Arab towns in the occupied Syrian Golan. Of these, 10,485 live in the town of Majdal Shams, 6,238 in the town of Buq'ana, 3,447 in Mas'adah, 1,950 in the village of Qunyah and 2,415 in the village of Ghajar. The figures for 2016 show that 1,580 new settlers have moved into the Israeli settlements, bringing up the total number of settlers. The population has increased from 968 to 1,274 in the settlement of Bnei Yehuda; from 84 to 168 in Ovdim settlement; from 286 to 908 in Had Nes settlement; from 276 to 513 in Mevo Hama settlement; and from 491 to 729 in Avnei Eitan settlement. The Israeli government grants a number of privileges in order to encourage settlers to move to the occupied Syrian Golan, including tax exemptions and agricultural and other projects, with a view to changing the demographic situation of that territory.

The head of the municipality of Katzrin, in the occupied Syrian Golan, recently announced plans to build 4,000 new housing units in that area. He stated that the expansion was intended to mark the fortieth anniversary of the start of settlement in Katzrin. We wish to recall that in 1973, the Prime Minister of the Israeli occupation authorities, Golda Meir, decided to build an Israeli city in the

16-15090 (E) 060916 080916

Please recycle

Golan. The city would be built on the rubble of the Syrian villages of Qas·in, Shaqif and Dawrah, which had been razed to the ground. In July 1977, settlers began to move there. Katzrin was the first Israeli settlement in the occupied Syrian Golan. It contains most of the economic, cultural and business facilities, including a large sports and cultural centre, the Golan Heights Winery, the Mey Eden mineral water bottling plant, the Amid Milk plant, a science centre, the Ancient Katzrin Park, the Katzrin Museum and the offices of the Archaeological Survey of Israel, the Society for the Protection of Nature and the Golan Research Institute, Israel.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council, to take prompt measures to bring an immediate end to Israel's actions; press Israel to implement the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 497 (1981); and compel Israel to withdraw from all of the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative